

**AN ORDINANCE**

**BY: COUNCIL MEMBER CLAIR MULLER**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND PART 15, SECTION 15-09.004 OF THE CITY'S LAND SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE IN THE CITY OF ATLANTA'S CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFINING SANITARY SEWER CONNECTION REQUIREMENTS FOR LAND SUBDIVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Atlanta ("City") provides sewer services to its citizens throughout areas of the City by and through its public sewer system ("Sewer System"), making sewer services generally available throughout the City; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of building applications are submitted to the City for consideration that contemplate the use of on-site sewer systems or septic tank systems as a means of sewerage disposal in areas where the City's sewer service is available or may become available; and

**WHEREAS**, the process of collecting and treating sewerage in the City's Sewer System results in the return of water to the original source of water, thereby replenishing a portion of the water that was originally consumed by the respective water user; and

**WHEREAS**, returning water to its source through the use of public sewer treatment system is critical as a means of minimizing consumptive water uses, particularly during this period of extreme drought and in the future for water conservation principles, generally; and

**WHEREAS**, the City joins other jurisdictions in the metropolitan Atlanta area in desiring to conserve water to endure that sufficient water supply is available through the use of its public sewerage system; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon available information and data, it is also known that septic tanks may fail without obvious knowledge of such failure, which may cause raw sewerage to seep into ground water and eventually pollute stream, rivers and water sources and threaten critical natural habitats occurring in those waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, in line with other regional jurisdictions, it is desirous for the City to require its citizens to connect to the public sewer system when public sewer is available in order to best protect its water sources, promote better water quality and conserve water for the public safety and general welfare of its citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of the Department of Watershed Management recommends the amendment of the Part 15-09.004 the City's Land Subdivision Code to require public sanitary sewer connection for land subdivisions for the reasons set forth above.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. Part 15-09.004 of the City's Land Subdivision Ordinances is hereby repealed and replaced in its entirety with the following:

Section 15-09.004. Sanitary facilities.

(a) Sanitary Sewer Connection Required. The applicant shall install and otherwise provide for each lot being developed a separate sanitary sewer service line and connection to the public sanitary sewer. Each sanitary sewer service line shall traverse only the lot being developed and be served by gravity flow, unless the Commissioner of the Department of Watershed Management ("Commissioner") permits a non-gravity flow connection. The connection shall be located at the frontage of the lot being developed and the public right-of-way to the extent that the public sanitary sewer lies within the public right-of-way. In addition to this section, all sanitary sewer connections and cleanouts shall be installed in accordance with the standards and specifications as may be required by the Commissioner.

(b) Sanitary Outfall Sewers. Easements shall be granted to the City for public sanitary outfall sewers constructed on private property for dedication to the City, which shall be executed by the property owner in a form prescribed by the Commissioner. The location of any sanitary sewer easements shall be shown on the final plat, as approved by the Commissioner.